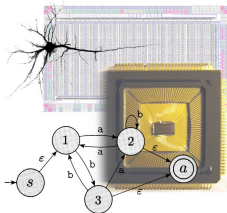


# Scalable Neuromorphic Learning Machines

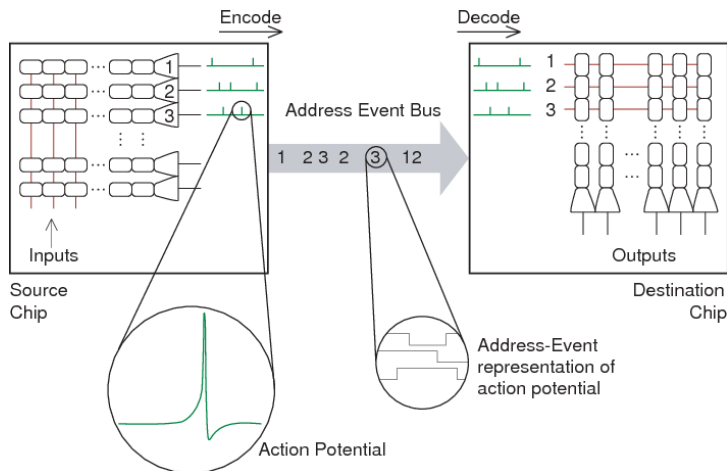
Emre Nefci

Department of Cognitive Sciences, UC Irvine,  
Department of Computer Science, UC Irvine,

September 11, 2017



# Neuromorphic Computing Can Enable Low-power, Massively Parallel Computing



- Only spikes are communicated & routed between neurons (weights, internal states are local)
- To use this architecture for practical workloads, we need algorithms that operate on local information

**Objective Function:** Target spike train  $s^*$

$$\mathcal{L}(s^*, s, w)$$

**Neuron Model:**

Probability of spike given input spike train  $s$

$$P(s_i = 1 | s) = \rho(u_i)$$

$$u_i(t) = \sum_j w_{ij} \epsilon * s_j(t) + \eta * s_i(t)$$

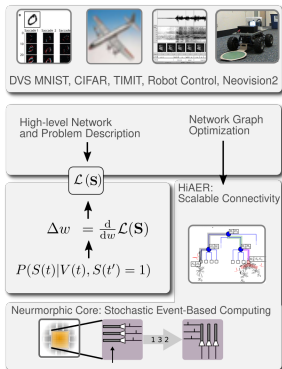
“Activation function”  $\rho_i$  can be derived or estimated.  
 Kernels  $\eta$  and  $\epsilon$  reflect neural and synaptic dynamics.

Gerstner and Kistler., 2002

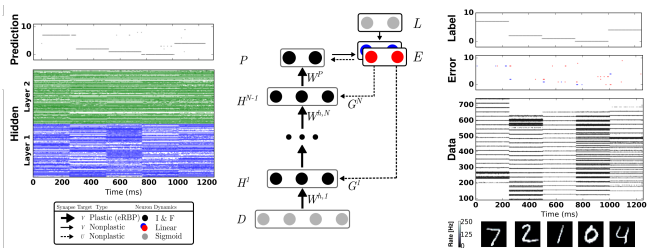
**Learning Rule:**

$$\Delta w \propto \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ij}} \mathcal{L} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial s_i} \rho'(u_i) \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial w_{ij}}$$

Spiking neural networks can be viewed as (deep) Binary Neural Networks



# Event-Driven Random Backpropagation (eRBP) for Deep Supervised Learning



function ERBP

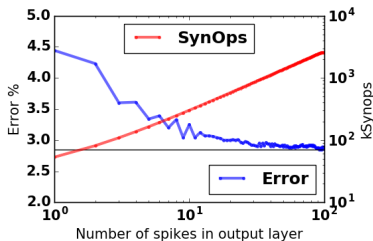
for  $k \in \{\text{presynaptic spike addresses } \mathbf{S}^{pre}\}$  do  
 if  $b_{min} < I < b_{max}$  then  $w_k \leftarrow w_k + T$ ,  
 end if

end for

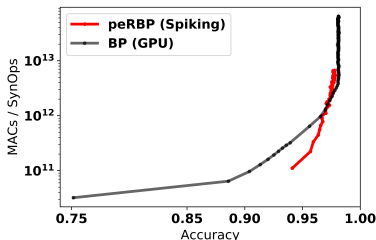
end function

Dataset	eRBP <sub>x</sub>	BP (100)
MNIST 784-200-200-10	<b>2.29</b> %	1.80 %
MNIST 784-500-500-10	<b>2.02</b> %	1.90 %

- **Energy Efficiency During Inference:** First output spike is >95% accurate



- **Energy Efficiency During Training:** SynOp-MAC parity



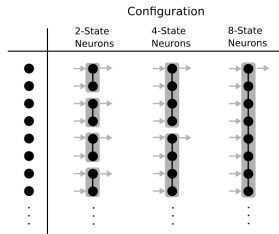
## (a) Neural and Synaptic Array Transeiver

### Neuron Dynamics

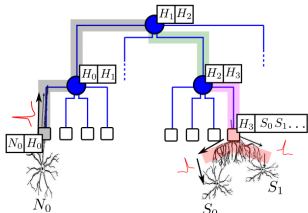
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}[t+1] &= \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}[t] && \text{(Leak \& Coupling)} \\ &+ \Xi[t] \otimes \mathbf{W}[t]\mathbf{S}[t] && \text{(Synaptic inputs)} \\ &+ \boldsymbol{\eta}[t] && \text{(Noise)} \\ x_0[t+1] &\geq \theta_0, s_i[t+1] \leftarrow 1 && \text{(Spiking Output)} \\ \mathbf{x}[t+1] &\geq \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}[t+1] \leftarrow \mathbf{X}_r && \text{(Thresholds \& Reset)} \end{aligned}$$

### Synaptic Plasticity Dynamics

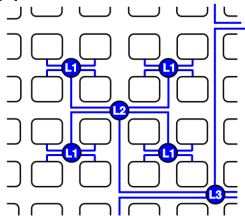
$$\begin{aligned} e_k &= x_m[t] (K[t - t_k] + K[t_k - t_{last}]) && \text{(Eligibility)} \\ w_k[t+1] &= w_k[t] + s_k[t+1]e_k && \text{(Weight update)} \end{aligned}$$

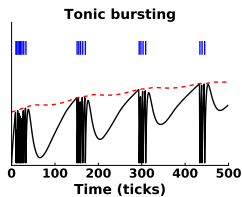
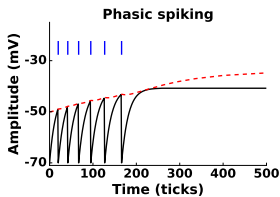
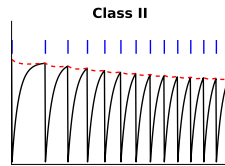
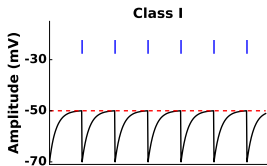
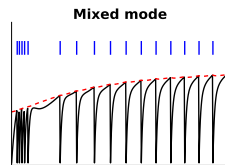
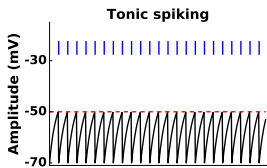


## (b) Connectivity Model



## (c) HiAER Tree





$$w_k[t + 1] = w_k[t] + s_k[t + 1]e_k \quad \text{(Weight update)}$$

$$e_k = x_m \underbrace{(K[t - t_k] + K[t_k - t_{last}])}_{STDP} \quad \text{(Eligibility)}$$

$$x_m = \sum_i \gamma_i x_i \quad \text{(Modulation)}$$

Detorakis, Augustine, Paul, Pedroni, Sheik, Cauwenberghs, and Neftci (in preparation)



$$\begin{aligned}
 w_k[t+1] &= w_k[t] + s_k[t+1]e_k && \text{(Weight update)} \\
 e_k &= x_m \underbrace{(K[t-t_k] + K[t_k-t_{last}])}_{STDP} && \text{(Eligibility)} \\
 x_m &= \sum_i \gamma_i x_i && \text{(Modulation)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Detorakis, Augustine, Paul, Pedroni, Sheik, Cauwenberghs, and Neftci (in preparation)

*STDP weight updates on pre-synaptic spikes only, using only forward lookup access of the synaptic connectivity table*

Pedroni et al., 2016

*“Plasticity involves as a third factor a local dendritic potential, besides pre- and postsynaptic firing times”*

Urbanczik and Senn, *Neuron*, 2014

Clopath, Büssing, Vasilaki, and Gerstner, *Nature Neuroscience*, 2010

- **Reinforcement Learning**

$$\Delta w_{ij} = \eta r STDP_{ij}$$

Florian, *Neural Computation*, 2007

- **Unsupervised Representation Learning**

$$\Delta w_{ij} = \eta g(t) STDP_{ij}$$

Neftci, Das, Pedroni, Kreuz-Delgado, and Cauwenberghs, *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 2014

- **Unsupervised Sequence Learning**

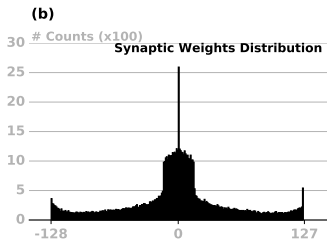
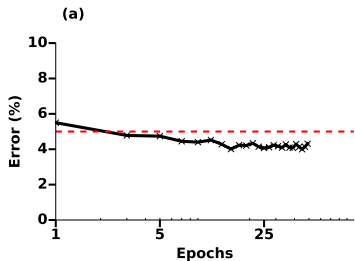
$$\Delta w_{ij} = \eta (\Theta(V) - \alpha(\nu_i - C)) s_j$$

Sheik et al. 2016

- **Supervised Deep Learning (eRBP)**

$$\Delta w_{ij} = \eta Error_i \phi'(t) s_j$$

Neftci, Pedroni, Joshi, Al-Shedivat, and Cauwenberghs, *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 2016



- Event-driven Random Backpropagation Rule
- MNIST 784-100-10
- 8 bit synaptic weights
- 16 bit neural states

Detorakis, Augustine, Paul, Pedroni, Sheik, Cauwenberghs, and Neftci (in preparation)

## Collaborators:



Gert Cauwenberghs  
(UCSD)



Georgios Detorakis  
(UCI)



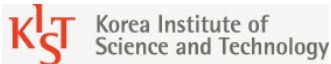
Somnath Paul  
(Intel)








Charles Augustine  
(Intel)

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- SRC-NRI Nanoelectronics Research Initiative
- Intel Corporation, Intel Strategic Research Alliance
- KIST Neuromorphic Research Consortium



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